

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, 13th April, 1953

STATEMENT SHOWING MINIMUM NOMINAL WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND ORDINARY HOURS OF
LABOUR FOR WORKERS IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AT

31ST DECEMBER, 1952

(Rates of Wage are quoted from the latest Award, Determination or Agreement operative
On 31st December, 1952)

ADULT MALES

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Rates of Wage | Hours | Rates of Wage | Hours |
| <u>WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| | s. d. | | s. d. | |
| <u>COOPERING</u> - | | | | |
| Cooper | 289/- | 40 | 298/- | 40 |
| <u>FURNITURE</u> - | | | | |
| Cabinet Maker | 287/- | " | 278/- | " |
| Chairmaker | 287/- | " | 278/- | " |
| French Polisher | 287/- | " | 278/- | " |
| Wood Carver | 287/- | " | 278/- | " |
| Wood Machinist | 287/- | " | 258/- to 278/- | " |
| <u>SAWMILLING & TIMBER YARDS</u> - | | | | |
| Box and Case Maker | 267/- | " | 258/- | " |
| Labourer | 251/- | " | 242/- | " |
| <u>Machinist</u> - | | | | |
| Boult's Carver | 283/6 | " | 274/6 | " |
| Moulding | 258/6 to 283/6 | " | 249/6 to 274/6 | " |
| Planing | 268/6 & 283/6 | " | 239/6 & 274/6 | " |
| Shaping | 283/6 | " | 26/6 | " |
| Orderman | 270/6 | " | 261/6 | " |
| <u>Sawyer</u> - | | | | |
| Band or Jig | 268/- to 289/- | " | 259/- to 280/- | " |
| Circular | 269/- & 281/6 | " | 260/- & 272/6 | " |
| Tallyman | 268/6 | " | 259/6 | " |
| <u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| <u>BOILERMAKING</u> - | | | | |
| Boilermaker | 289/- | 40 | 280/- | 40 |
| Helper | 260/- | " | 251/- | " |
| Labourer | 260/- | " | 251/- | " |
| <u>MASSTWORKING</u> - | | | | |
| Finisher | 274/- & 289/- | " | 265/- & 280/- | " |
| Moulder | 265/- to 289/- | " | 256/- to 280/- | " |
| <u>ELCTRICAL INSTALLATION</u> - | | | | |
| Armature Winder | 289/- | " | 282/- | " |
| Fitter | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Linesman | 277/- | " | 268/- | " |
| Mechanic | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Wireman | 277/- | " | 268/- | " |
| <u>ELCTRICAL SUPPLY</u> - | | | | |
| Armature Winder | 301/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Instrument Maker | 304/6 | " | 295/6 | " |
| Linesman | 295/- | " | 268/- | " |
| Shift Electrician | 301/- | " | 280/- | " |
| <u>ENGINEERING</u> - | | | | |
| Blacksmith | 290/6 | " | 281/6 | " |
| Brassfinisher | 274/- & 289/- | " | 265/- & 280/- | " |
| Coppersmith | 290/6 | " | 281/6 | " |
| Fitter | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (Continued)

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Rates of Wage | Hours | Rates of Wage | Hours |
| <u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS (Cont'd)</u> | | | | |
| | s. d. | | s. d. | |
| <u>ENGINEERING - (Contd.)</u> | | | | |
| Labourer | 260/- | 40 | 251/- | 40 |
| Patternmaker | 302/- | " | 293/- | " |
| Shaper | 274/- & 289/- | " | 265/- & 280/- | " |
| Striker | 260/- & 262/- | " | 251/- & 253/- | " |
| Turner | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| <u>MOULDING (IRON) -</u> | | | | |
| Coremaker | 265/- to 289/- | " | 256/- to 280/- | " |
| Labourer | 260/- | " | 251/- | " |
| Moulder | 265/- to 289/- | " | 256/- to 280/- | " |
| <u>MOULDING (STEEL) -</u> | | | | |
| Coremaker | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Labourer | 260/- | " | 251/- | " |
| Moulder | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| <u>SHEET METAL WORKING -</u> | | | | |
| Canister Maker | 263/- | " | 254/- | " |
| Machinist | 259/- | " | 250/- | " |
| Solderer | 259/- & 263/- | " | 250/- & 254/- | " |
| Tinsmith | 274/- & 289/- | " | 265/- & 280/- | " |
| <u>FOOD, DRINK, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| <u>BAKING (BREAD) -</u> | | | | |
| Board Hand | 297/- | 40 | 295/- | 38 |
| Bread Carter (1 horse) | 277/- | " | 270/- | 42 |
| Ovenman | 305/6 | " | 295/- | 38 |
| Single Hand | 302/- | " | 305/10 | 38 |
| <u>BAKING (BISCUITS AND CAKES) -</u> | | | | |
| Baker | 269/6 | " | 267/- | 40 |
| General Labourer | 243/- | " | 245/- | " |
| Mixer | 258/- & 262/- | " | 266/- | " |
| <u>BREWING -</u> | | | | |
| Cellarman | 271/- & 276/- | " | 272/3 | " |
| Driver (1 horse) | 274/- | " | 270/- | " |
| Labourer | 271/- | " | 264/- | " |
| Malt Hand | 271/- | " | 269/- | " |
| Towerman | 276/- | " | 273/- | " |
| <u>BUTCHERING (RETAIL) -</u> | | | | |
| Carter (1 horse) | 272/- | " | 251/6 | " |
| General Hand | 292/- | " | 283/- | " |
| Shopman | 292/- | " | 283/- | " |
| Smallgoodsman | 297/- | " | 288/- | " |
| <u>CONFECTIONERY -</u> | | | | |
| Journeyman | 279/- | " | 258/- to 270/- | " |
| Labourer | 255/- | " | 246/- | " |
| Storeman | 255/- & 279/- | " | 258/- to 278/9 | " |
| <u>COAT MAKING -</u> | | | | |
| General Labourer | 252/- | " | 252/- | " |
| Solderer | 261/- | " | 261/- | " |
| <u>CAN PACKING -</u> | | | | |
| Capper | 289/6 | " | 296/- | " |
| Guillotine Hand | 267/- | " | 296/- | " |
| Jokerman | 277/- | " | 296/- | " |
| Packer | 267/- | " | 296/- | " |
| Seamer | 289/6 | " | 296/- | " |
| <u>FLILLING (FLOUR) -</u> | | | | |
| Miller (Shift) | 289/- to 314/- | " | 289/- to 314/- | " |
| Packerman | 274/- | " | 274/- | " |
| Purifierman | 277/- | " | 277/- | " |
| Smutterman | 277/- | " | 277/- | " |
| Storeman (Head) | 279/- & 284/- | " | 279/- & 284/- | " |
| Topman | 277/- | " | 277/- | " |
| <u>PAstryCOOKING -</u> | | | | |
| Packer | 262/6 | " | 242/- | " |
| Pastrycook | 283/6 | " | 284/- | " |

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT Males 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (continued)

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|---------|
| | Rates of Wage | Hours | Rates of Wage | Hours |
| <u>CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| | s. d. | | s. d. | |
| <u>BOOTMAKING</u> - | | | | |
| Bootmaker | 275/- | 40 | 275/- | 40 |
| <u>TAILORING (ORDER)</u> - | | | | |
| Cutter | 362/- | " | 314/- | " |
| Presser | 278/- | " | 278/- | " |
| Tailor | 285/- | " | 285/- | " |
| <u>TAILORING (READYMADE)</u> - | | | | |
| Cutter | 289/- | " | 289/- | " |
| Presser | 278/- | " | 278/- | " |
| Tailor | 285/- | " | 285/- | " |
| Trimmer | 278/- | " | 278/- | " |
| <u>TEXTILE WORKING</u> - | | | | |
| (Woollen Mills) - | | | | |
| Carder | 259/- | " | 259/- | " |
| Dyehouseman | 264/- | " | 264/- | " |
| Labourer (General) | 235/- | " | 235/- | " |
| Scourer | 264/- to 271/6 | " | 264/- to 271/6 | " |
| Spinner | 259/- | " | 259/- | " |
| Tuner | 252/- to 282/- | " | 252/- to 282/- | " |
| Warper | 261/- | " | 261/- | " |
| <u>BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| <u>BOOKBINDING</u> - | | | | |
| Finisher | 295/- | 40 | 286/- | 40 |
| Bookbinding (Journeyman) | 295/- | " | 286/- | " |
| Paper Ruler | 295/- | " | 286/- | " |
| <u>PRINTING (DAILY NEWSPAPER)</u> - | | | | |
| <u>Compositor</u> - | | | | |
| Day Work | 363/- to 370/6 | " | 339/- | 38 |
| Night Work | 378/6 to 386/6 | " | 364/- | " |
| <u>Machinist</u> - | | | | |
| Day Work | 323/- to 335/6 | " | 343/6 | 40 |
| Night Work | 338/- to 351/6 | " | 368/6 | 38 |
| <u>Publisher</u> - (Day & Night) | 300/6 to 321/- | " | 297/6 to 322/6 | 38 & 40 |
| <u>Reader</u> - | | | | |
| Day Work | 330/6 to 338/6 | " | 339/- | 40 |
| Night Work | 345/6 to 354/- | " | 364/- | 38 |
| <u>Stereotyper</u> - | | | | |
| Day Work | 318/- to 330/6 | " | 339/- | 39 |
| Night Work | 333/- to 346/6 | " | 364/- | 38 |
| <u>PRINTING (JOBBERING OFFICES)</u> - | | | | |
| Compositor | 295/- to 305/6 | " | 286/- to 296/6 | 40 |
| Linotype Operator | 305/6 | " | 296/6 | " |
| Machinist | 295/- | " | 286/- | " |
| Reader | 298/6 | " | 289/6 | " |
| Stereotyper | 295/- | " | 286/- | " |
| <u>OTHER MANUFACTURING</u> | | | | |
| <u>BRICKMAKING</u> - | | | | |
| Burner | 267/- & 273/- | 40 | 269/- | 40 |
| Clayholeman | 284/- | " | 270/6 | " |
| Drawer | 289/6 | " | 268/6 & 271/- | " |
| Trucker | 281/- | " | 263/- | " |
| Setter | 289/6 | " | 268/6 & 281/- | " |
| <u>COACHMAKING</u> - | | | | |
| Bodymaker | 269/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Labourer | 240/- | " | 231/- | " |
| Painter | 262/6 to 283/6 | " | 253/6 to 274/6 | " |
| Springmaker | 289/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Trimmer | 283/6 | " | 274/6 | " |
| Wheelwright | 283/6 | " | 274/6 | " |

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT MALES 31ST DECEMBER, 1952 (continued)

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Rates of Wage | Hours | Rates of Wage | Hours |
| <u>OTHER MANUFACTURING (Cont'd.)</u> | | | | |
| | s. d. | | s. d. | |
| <u>AS-MAKING AND SUPPLY -</u> | | | | |
| Coke Trimmer | 265/- | 40 | 249/- | 40 |
| Gasfitter | 303/- | " | 285/- | " |
| Labourer | 252/- | " | 243/- | " |
| Meter Tester | 266/- & 275/- | " | 272/- | " |
| Service Layer | 281/- | " | 266/- | " |
| Service Layer's Labourer | 262/- | " | 249/- | " |
| Stoker | 276/- | " | 261/- | " |
| <u>CELLERY -</u> | | | | |
| Chainmaker | 287/- | " | 289/- | " |
| Mounter | 287/- | " | 280/- | " |
| Setter | 295/- | " | 270/- | " |
| <u>LEATHER AND HARNESS MAKING -</u> | | | | |
| Collar Maker | 277/- | " | 268/- | " |
| Harness Maker | 277/- | " | 268/- | " |
| <u>LEAVING AND CURRYING -</u> | | | | |
| Beamsman | 284/6 | " | 275/6 | " |
| Labourer | 260/6 | " | 251/6 | " |
| Limeman | 277/6 | " | 268/6 | " |
| <u>MACHINIST -</u> | | | | |
| Shaving | 285/6 to 291/6 | " | 276/6 to 282/6 | " |
| Splitting | 291/6 to 298/6 | " | 282/6 to 289/6 | " |
| Unhairing | 284/6 | " | 275/6 | " |
| Tableman | 279/6 to 265/6 | " | 270/6 to 276/6 | " |
| <u>BUILDING</u> | | | | |
| Bricklayer | 326/8 | 40 | 313/4 | 40 |
| Carpenter | 331/8 | " | 290/6 | " |
| Mason (Stone) | 316/- | " | 286/3 | " |
| Painter | 315/- | " | 313/4 | " |
| Paperhanger | 315/- | " | 313/4 | " |
| Signwriter | 327/6 | " | 313/4 | " |
| Plasterer | 323/9 | " | 313/4 | " |
| Plumber | 324/- | " | 313/7 | " |
| <u>Labourer - +</u> | | | | |
| Bricklayer's | 262/6 | " | 253/6 | " |
| Carpenter's | 262/6 | " | 253/6 | " |
| Concrete Worker | 262/6 | " | 253/6 | " |
| Earth Excavator | 262/6 | " | 253/6 | " |
| Gear Worker | 271/6 | " | 262/6 | " |
| Scaffold Hand | 271/6 | " | 262/6 | " |
| <u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES</u> | | | | |
| <u>RAILWAYS</u> | | | | |
| <u>Engine Driver Loco -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 326/- & 329/- | ø | 306/- to 321/- | ø |
| 2nd Class | 307/- | ø | 303/- | ø |
| 3rd Class | 311/- | ø | 294/- | ø |
| <u>Fireman -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 279/- & 282/- | ø | 264/- to 271/- | ø |
| 2nd Class | 276/- | ø | 258/- | ø |
| 3rd Class | 272/- | ø | 252/- | ø |
| <u>Guard -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 296/- | ø | 287/6 | ø |
| 2nd Class | 287/- & 290/- | ø | 270/- to 281/6 | ø |
| 3rd Class | 282/- & 284/- | ø | 270/- to 281/6 | ø |
| <u>Porter -</u> | | | | |
| Porter | 253/- to 284/- | ø | 245/6 to 280/- | ø |
| <u>Shunter -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 295/- & 299/- | * | 286/- & 289/- | * |
| 2nd Class | 284/6 & 287/6 | * | 278/6 & 281/6 | * |
| 3rd Class | 265/- to 281/- | * | 259/- & 268/6 | * |

+ Rates exclude allowances for statutory holidays, following the job, and sick pay.

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Rates of Wage | Hours | Rates of Wage | Hours |
| <u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES (Cont'd.)</u> | | | | |
| s. d. | | | | |
| <u>RAILWAYS (Cont'd.)</u> | | | | |
| <u>Signalman -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 311/- | * | 292/6 | * |
| 2nd Class | 303/- | ø | 279/6 | ø |
| 3rd Class | 295/- | ø | 271/6 | ø |
| <u>TRAMWAYS -</u> | | | | |
| <u>Conductor -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Year | 258/- | 40 | 251/- | 40 |
| 2nd Year | 264/- | " | 257/- | " |
| 3rd Year | 264/- | " | 257/- | " |
| <u>Labourer</u> | 252/6 | " | 245/- | " |
| <u>Maintenance Man</u> | 260/- & 263/- | " | 254/- | " |
| <u>Motorman -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Year | 267/- | " | 251/- | " |
| 2nd Year | 267/- | " | 257/- | " |
| 3rd Year | 267/- | " | 257/- | " |
| Pitman | 277/- | " | 265/- | " |
| * 76 hours per fortnight. | | | | |
| ø 80 hours per fortnight. | | | | |
| <u>TRANSPORT (OTHER)</u> | | | | |
| <u>CARRYING MERCHANDISE -</u> | | | | |
| <u>Carter -</u> | | | | |
| 1 Horse | 268/- | 40 | 251/6 | 40 |
| 2 Horses | 273/- | " | 259/6 | " |
| Stable Hand | 267/6 to 272/6 | " | 246/- | " |
| <u>Motor Lorries & Waggons -</u> | | | | |
| Under 3 tons | 270/- to 280/- | " | 259/6 & 265/6 | " |
| 3 tons and over | 284/- to 288/- | " | 270/- | " |
| <u>WHARF LABOUR -</u> | | | | |
| Wharf Labourer (per hour) | 8/2 | | 8/2 | |
| <u>HOTELS, ETC.</u> | | | | |
| <u>OTELS -</u> | | | | |
| Barman | 267/- | 40 | 258/- | 40 |
| Billiard Marker | 257/- | " | 248/- | " |
| Cook | 267/- to 307/- | " | 258/- to 298/- | " |
| Handyman | 257/- | " | 248/- | " |
| Kitcherman | 257/- | " | 248/- | " |
| Porter | 257/- | " | 248/- | " |
| Waiter | 257/- & 267/- | " | 248/- & 258/- | " |
| <u>HIRDRESSING -</u> | | | | |
| Full Hand | 287/- | " | 286/6 | " |
| Hairdresser | 277/- | " | 267/- | " |
| <u>GENERAL LABOUR</u> | | | | |
| <u>FACTORY ENGINE DRIVING -</u> | | | | |
| <u>Engine Driver -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 274/- & 280/6 | 40 | 265/- & 271/6 | 40 |
| 2nd Class | 269/- & 274/- | " | 260/- & 265/- | " |
| <u>Fireman -</u> | | | | |
| 1st Class | 269/- | " | 260/- | " |
| 2nd Class | 264/- | " | 255/- | " |
| <u>MUNICIPAL -</u> | | | | |
| Labourer | 260/- | " | 247/- | " |
| Street Sweeper | 260/- | " | 253/- | " |
| <u>SOP ASSISTANTS -</u> | | | | |
| Boot Salesman | 279/- | " | 265/- | " |
| Drapery Salesman | 279/- | " | 265/- | " |
| Furniture Salesman | 279/- | " | 268/- | " |
| Grocery Salesman | 279/- | " | 261/- | " |
| Hardware Salesman | 279/- | " | 265/- | " |
| Men's Clothing Salesman | 279/- | " | 265/- | " |
| <u>DRAYMAN AND PACKERS -</u> | | | | |
| Packer (General) | 269/6 & 272/6 | " | 269/- | " |
| Storeman (General) | 268/- & 270/6 | " | 269/- | " |

WEEKLY WAGE RATES & HOURS, ADULT FEMALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1952.

| Industry and Occupation | SYDNEY | | MELBOURNE | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| | Rates of Wage | | Hours | Rates of Wage | |
| <u>FOOD</u> | | | | | |
| Biscuit Making | s. d. | 179/6 | 40 | s. d. | 190/9 |
| Confectionery | | 190/6 | " | | 184/6 |
| <u>CLOTHING & TEXTILES</u> | | | | | |
| Bootmaking | | 191/- | 40 | | 191/- |
| Dressmaking | | 179/- to 209/- | " | | 179/- to 209/- |
| Hillinery | | 179/- | " | | 179/- |
| Shirt Making | | 179/- | " | | 179/- |
| Underclothing | | 179/- to 209/- | " | | 179/- to 209/- |
| <u>TAILORING - ORDER</u> | | | | | |
| Machinist (Coat) | | 209/- | " | | 209/- |
| " (Trousers & Vest) | | 196/6 | " | | 196/6 |
| Tailoress (Coat) | | 225/- | " | | 225/- |
| " (Trousers & Vest) | | 196/6 | " | | 196/6 |
| <u>TAILORING - READYMADE</u> | | | | | |
| Machinist (Coat) | | 199/- | " | | 199/- |
| " (Trousers & Vest) | | 194/- | " | | 194/- |
| Tailoress (Coat) | | 199/- | " | | 199/- |
| " (Trousers & Vest) | | 194/- | " | | 194/- |
| <u>TEXTILE WORKING WOOLLEN MILLS</u> | | | | | |
| Comb Minder | | 189/6 | " | | 189/6 |
| Drawer & Mender | | 188/6 & 191/6 | " | | 188/6 & 191/6 |
| Harper | | 191/6 | " | | 191/6 |
| Weaver (Loom) | | 194/6 | " | | 194/6 |
| Gillbox Minder | | 188/6 | " | | 188/6 |
| Other Adult | | 176/6 | " | | 176/6 |
| <u>BOOKS, PRINTING, ETC.</u> | | | | | |
| <u>BOOKBINDING</u> | | | | | |
| Folder | | 201/6 | 40 | | 195/- |
| Sewer | | 201/6 | " | | 195/- |
| <u>MARBOARD BOX</u> | | | | | |
| Bosemaker | | 199/6 & 206/- | " | | 193/- & 199/6 |
| Other | | 190/- to 202/- | " | | 183/6 to 195/6 |
| <u>PRINTING</u> | | | | | |
| Jobbing Office Assistant | | 201/6 | " | | 195/- |
| <u>HOTELS AND SHOPS</u> | | | | | |
| <u>OTELS</u> | | | | | |
| Barmaid | | 207/6 | 40 | | 258/- |
| Housemaid | | 191/6 | " | | 185/- |
| Laundress | | 195/6 | " | | 189/- |
| Waitress | | 191/6 & 197/6 | " | | 185/- & 191/- |
| <u>HOPS</u> | | | | | |
| Boot Saleswoman | | 199/6 & 279/- | " | | 186/6 |
| Drapery Saleswoman | | 199/6 & 279/- | " | | 186/6 & 265/- |